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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
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10/625,091

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Takahiro Takemoto

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EXAMINER

PHAM, TAMMY T

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2629

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PAPER

**Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.**

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

<b>Office Action Summary</b>	<b>Application No.</b> 10/625,091	<b>Applicant(s)</b> TAKEMOTO, TAKAHIRO	
	<b>Examiner</b> TAMMY PHAM	<b>Art Unit</b> 2629	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

### Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

### Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 30 December 2008.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**.                      2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

### Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1,3-6,8-11,13-16 and 18-24 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) 4-6,8-10,14-16,18-20 and 22-24 is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1,3,11,13 and 21 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

### Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

### Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All    b) ☐ Some \*    c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

### Attachment(s)

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| 1) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)                       | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)           |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)   | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____                                      |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date <u>11/13/08</u> .  | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____                          |

## **DETAILED ACTION**

### ***Continued Examination Under 37 CFR 1.114***

1. A request for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, including the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e), was filed in this application after final rejection. Since this application is eligible for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, and the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e) has been timely paid, the finality of the previous Office action has been withdrawn pursuant to 37 CFR 1.114. Applicant's submission filed on 30 December 2008 has been entered.

### ***Response to Amendment***

2. Claims 2, 7, 12, 17, have been cancelled. Claims 4-6, 8-10, 14-16, 18-20, 22-24, have been withdrawn. Claims 25-27 have been added. Claims 1, 3, 11, 13, 21, 25-27, are considered below.

### ***Response to Arguments***

3. Applicant's arguments filed 30 December 2008 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive.

4. **In regards to independent claims 1, 11, 21**, Applicant submits that the art on record fails to teach the newly amended limitations. In particular, that Moriyama fails to teach that “*the source driver has a resetting means for resetting the data voltage outputted by the source driver circuit exclusively throughout a blanking period of each of the horizontal synchronizing periods of the set,*” because “*Moriyama teaches that a delay of time,  $\Delta t$ , occurs before the reset signal is given (Remarks 11).*” This is not persuasive.

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5. Examiner realizes that in the interview summary of 16 January 2009, it was agreed upon that the amendments overcomes the prior art of record as currently interpreted. However, upon closer examination, Examiner realizes that the amended claim language still remains broad enough so that the Moriyama continues to read upon the claim language as currently stated. In particular, because the claim language fails to define or limit what constitutes as the “*horizontal blanking period*” and how the reset signal is being applied “*exclusively throughout*” this period; the horizontal can be arbitrary set as any period which fulfilled the claim language as currently stated. Hence, Moriyama may be interpreted to teach that the “*horizontal blanking period*” begins at t2 since there is nothing in the claim language that prohibits that interpretation of the claims, and hence Moriyama continues to read upon the claims.

6. **In regards to claims 3, 13, 25-27**, these claims are being rejected for being dependents upon improper claims, as discussed above.

### ***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112***

The following is a quotation of the first paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall contain a written description of the invention, and of the manner and process of making and using it, in such full, clear, concise, and exact terms as to enable any person skilled in the art to which it pertains, or with which it is most nearly connected, to make and use the same and shall set forth the best mode contemplated by the inventor of carrying out his invention.

7. Claims 1, 3, 11, 13, 21, 25-27, are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph, as failing to comply with the written description requirement. The claim(s) contains subject matter which was not described in the specification in such a way as to reasonably convey to one skilled in the relevant art that the inventor(s), at the time the application was filed, had possession of the claimed invention.

8. **In regards to independent claims 1, 11, 21,** the amended claim language now recites that the resetting means is outputted “*exclusively throughout a blanking period.*” However, there is no support for this newly amended limitation. Appropriate correction is necessary.

9. **In regards to claims 3, 13, 25-27,** these claims are being rejected for being dependents upon improper claims, as discussed above.

### ***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102***

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

10. Claims 1, 3, 11, 13, are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Moriyama et al. (US Patent No: 6,232,945 B1).

11. **In regards to independent claims 1, 11,** Moriyama teaches of an active-matrix addressing LCD device (Fig. 1, item 501) comprising:

12. a panel including an active-matrix substrate (Fig. 1, item 101), an opposite substrate (Fig. 1, item 101), and a liquid crystal layer (Fig. 1, item 151) sandwiched by the active-matrix substrate (Fig. 1, item 101) and the opposite substrate (Fig. 1, item 101), the active-matrix substrate (Fig. 1, item 101) having data lines (Fig. 1, item X1-Xm), scanning lines (Fig. 1, item Y1-Yn) that intersect with the data lines (Fig. 1, item X1-Xm) at intersections, pixels (Fig. 1, item 151) arranged near the respective intersections, and TFTs (Fig. 1, item 121) arranged as switching elements (Fig. 1, item 121) for the respective pixels (Fig. 1, item 151);

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13. a source driver circuit (Fig. 1, item 291) for driving the data lines (Fig. 1, item X1-Xm);
14. a gate driver circuit (Fig. 1, item 293) for driving the scanning lines (Fig. 1, item Y1—n);
- and
15. a controller circuit (not shown) for controlling the source driver (Fig. 1, item 101) and the gate driver (Fig. 1, item 293),
16. wherein a polarity of a data voltage (Fig. 18, item “Video Signal”) applied to each of the pixels (Fig. 1, item 151) by way of a corresponding one of the data lines (Fig. 1, item X1-Xm) and a corresponding one of the TFTs (Fig. 1, item 121) is inverted in every set of two or more horizontal synchronizing periods (Fig. 18, note that the “Video Signal” is inverted in at least every third horizontal synchronizing period) by the controller circuit (not shown);
17. wherein the source driver (Fig. 1, item 291; Fig. 2) has a resetting means (Fig. 2) for resetting the data voltages outputted by the source driver circuit (Fig. 1, item 291; Fig. 2) exclusively throughout a blanking period (Fig. 18, when the Reset Signal is ON) of each of the horizontal synchronizing periods of the set; and
18. wherein the resetting means (Fig. 2) performs its resetting operation (Fig. 2) with reference to a latch signal (Fig. 2, item “Reset”) supplied to the source driver circuit (Fig. 1, item 291; Fig. 2) by the controller circuit (not shown; column 6, lines 45-50; column 16, lines 45-50).
19. **In regards to claims 3, 13,** Moriyama teaches that each of the data voltages (Fig. 18, item “Video Signal”) alternately has a positive value or a negative value in the polarity inversion period; and

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20. wherein the resetting means (Fig. 2) is controlled in such a way that each of the data voltages (Fig. 18, item "Video Signal") will reach a middle point value between the positive value (Fig. 18, positive value of "Video Signal") and the negative value (Fig. 18, negative value of "Video Signal") after the resetting operation (Fig. 2; Fig. 18, when the "Reset" pulse is ON) is completed (Fig. 18, column 16, lines 45-50).

### ***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103***

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

21. Claims 25-27 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Moriyama et al. (US Patent No: 6,232,945 B1) in view of Fukutofu et al. (U.S. Patent No.: 6,734,840 B2)

22. **In regards to claims 25-27**, Moriyama fails to teach that the data voltage applied to each of the pixels by way of the corresponding one of the data lines and the corresponding one of the TFTs is not inverted after each horizontal synchronizing period.

23. Fukutofu teaches that the polarity of the data voltage applied to each of the pixels by way of the corresponding one of the data lines and the corresponding one of the TFTs is not inverted after each horizontal synchronizing period (Fig. 3b, column 17, lines 19-24).

24. It would have been obvious to one with ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have the polarity not be inverted with every horizontal synchronizing period as taught by Fukutofu, with the display of Moriyama. This combination allows for a reduction or

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prevention of flickering and does not unnecessarily switch polarity patterns (Fukutofu, column 2, lines 46-54).

25. Claim 21 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Moriyama et al. (US Patent No: 6,232,945 B1) in view of Hirobumi (Japanese Publication No: 2001-249643).

26. **In regards to independent claim 21**, in addition the teachings of Moriyama above in claims 1, 11, Moriyama further teaches that the polarity of the data voltages (Fig. 18, item “Video Signal”) supplied by way of the data lines (Fig. 2, items X1-Xm) is alternately inverted in every set of the horizontal synchronizing periods (Fig. 18, item “One Horizontal Scanning Period”) and in every vertical synchronizing period (Fig. 21, item “Vertical Scanning Period”) within every frame period (column 19, lines 10-15), thereby driving the device (Fig. 1, item 501).

27. Moriyama fails to specify that the polarity of the data voltages is inverted in every set of two horizontal synchronizing periods (the 2-H dot inversion method).

28. Hirobumi teaches that the polarity of the data voltages (Drawing 4, last waveform shown) is inverted in every set of two horizontal synchronizing periods (Drawing 4, item 2H) (the 2-H dot inversion method).

29. It would have been obvious to one with ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to invert the data voltages every set of two horizontal synchronizing periods (the 2-H dot inversion method) as taught by Hirobumi with the display device of Moriyama because inverting the data voltage only one horizontal synchronizing period is insufficient in charging the LCD (Hirobumi, section [0010]).



*Conclusion*

30. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Tammy Pham whose telephone number is (571) 272-7773. The examiner can normally be reached on 8:00-5:30 (Mon-Fri).

31. If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Sumati Lefkowitz can be reached on (571) 272-3638. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

32. Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

TP  
25 February 2009

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